(c) if so, by when these are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) As the Telugu Ganga Project has not been cleared, these questions do not arise.

Processing of Fruits and Vegetables

2085. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of various types of fruits and vegetables produced in the country and the estimated value thereof;

(b) the percentage of the total production of fruits and vegetables processed in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of friuts and vegetables worth hundreds of crores of rupees is lost because of lack of a proper processing industry; and

(d) if so, what is Govrenment's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) There is no official estimate for production of friuts and vegetables in the country. However, the annual production of fruits is 34 million tonnes and vegetables 23.5 million tonnes as per the rough estimates for 1984-85. The total estimated value of fruit and vegetable production is about Rs. 7000 crores.

(b) The quantity of fruits and vegetables processed in the country is less than one percent of the estimated annual production.

(c) Some of the fruits and vegetables which are suitable for processing are not processed due to lack of facilities.

(d) The following steps have been taken to ensure expansion of fruit and vegetable processing industry in the country:

1. Import of equipment and machinery for processing has been liberalised and the import duty has been reduced.

2. A plan scheme has been introduced for assistance to the State Governments/Cooperative Undertakings for takings up of fruit and vegetable processing.

3. A separate Corporation, namely, North-eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. has been set up for fostering the growth of horticulture and horticulture-based industry in North-eastern Region.

4. Modern Food Industry India Ltd. has diversified into fruit and vegetable processing.

5. Fruit Preservation Centre have been set up in the State to train housewives on the processing of fruits and vegetables.

Telugu Ganga Project

2086. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of funds in the construction of Telugu Ganga Project;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have approached the Central Government for the sanction of funds for the project;

(c) whether the required funds have not yet been sanctioned and released by the Central Government

resulting in considerable delay in the completion of project;

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in the sanction of funds; and

(e) by when the funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e) As the Telugu Ganga Project has not been cleared, these questions do not arise.

Functions of Oil Seeds Directorate and National Oil Seeds and Vegetable Oil and Development Board

2087. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the functions, objectives and scope of Oil Seeds Directorate and National Oil Seeds and Vegetable Oil and Development Board;

(b) the extent to which Directorate of Oil Seeds has succeeded in implementation of strategy of oil seeds production;

(c) whether there is any overlaping of functions of these two organisations; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken/propose to take to correct the situation of two Parallel organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board provides for integrated development of oilseeds industry and vegetable oils industry. It includes production, processing, marketing, storage, technical and financial assistance for research and development.

The functions of the Directorate of Oilseeds Development, Hyderabad, a subordinate office under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, are supervision and monitoring of oilseeds development programmes and maintaining liaison and co-ordination with the various States, in course of their implementation. It also provides feed-back on production and related aspects.

(b) The Directorate has helped in implementation of oilseeds production programmes through effective monitoring and supervision.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Irregularities pointed out in the audit report of NCCF

2088. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 465 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th December, 1986 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item regarding suspension of a clerk in NCCF which appeared in "Navbharat Times" of 11th January, 1987;

(b) whether comments of the Internal Auditor on the report of Government Audit party on NCCF to be furnished by 31st December, 1986 have since been received; and

(c) if so, what are the findings thereof and what action has been taken against the officers fund to be involved in the serious irregularities pointed out in the audit report?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes. Sir. The NCCF has denied